

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) An image recognition apparatus for preventing counterfeiting of bank notes and valuable securities, comprising:

a recognition processing portion which carries out a recognition process on supplied image data using dictionary data stored in a storage portion to determine whether or not said supplied image matches said dictionary data; and

means for writing said dictionary data into said storage portion;
wherein said dictionary data stored in said storage portion is erased at least at the time when the power is not on.

2. (previous presented) The image recognition apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said storage portion is constructed from a volatile memory, and wherein the erasing of said dictionary data is carried out automatically in accordance with the cutting off of the power supply.

3. (previous presented) The image recognition apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said storage portion is constructed from a rewriteable memory, and further comprising means for erasing said dictionary data stored in said storage portion at a prescribed timing.

4. (previous presented) The image recognition apparatus of any one of Claim 1 through Claim 3, further comprising means for monitoring the connection status of said storage portion.

5. (new) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

an image recognition apparatus for preventing
counterfeiting of bank notes and valuable securities, comprising:

a recognition processing portion which carries out a
recognition process on supplied image data using dictionary data
stored in a storage portion to determine whether or not said
supplied image matches said dictionary data; and

means for writing said dictionary data into said storage
portion; wherein said dictionary data stored in said storage portion
is erased at least at the time when the power is not on.

6. (new) The image processing apparatus of Claim 5,
wherein said storage portion is constructed from a volatile memory, and
wherein the erasing of said dictionary data is carried out automatically in
accordance with the cutting off of the power supply.

7. (new) The image processing apparatus of Claim 5,
wherein said storage portion is constructed from a rewriteable memory,
and further comprising means for erasing said dictionary data stored in
said storage portion at a prescribed timing.

8. (new) The image processing apparatus of any one of
Claim 5 through Claim 7, further comprising means for monitoring the
connection status of said storage portion.